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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Trustees of the Massachusetts: State Library

FOR THE

Year Ending November 30, 1928



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TRUSTEES OF THE STATE LIBRARY

NOVEMBER 30, 1928

CHARLES H. TAYLOR, *Chairman.*

Appointed June 1, 1928.

Term expires May 30, 1931.

WELLINGTON WELLS, *Ex officio.*

JOHN C. HULL, *Ex officio.*

CHARLES T. COPELAND,

Appointed June 1, 1927,

Term expires May 30, 1930.

OFFICERS OF THE LIBRARY

EDWARD H. REDSTONE	<i>State Librarian.</i>
ANNIE G. HOPKINS	<i>Assistant Librarian.</i>
FRANCES R. COE	<i>Head of Catalogue Department.</i>
JENNIE W. FOSTER	} <i>Library Reference Assistants.</i>
JESSIE L. KNOWLTON	
SARA E. NOYES	
ETHEL M. TURNER	
EMILY S. BURR	} <i>Senior Library Assistants.</i>
ROSE W. CLEVELAND	
RUTH G. HEDDEN	
MARGARET A. HOWARD	
ETHEL B. LEWIS	
MINNIE W. PERT	
ELIZABETH R. FISHER	
LUCILE E. SARGENT	} <i>Junior Library Assistants.</i>
GEORGE D. ZIMMER	
EARL C. BROWN	
ALVESTA C. DOUGLAS	} <i>Junior Clerks and Typists.</i>
BENJAMIN R. PRIEST	
MARGARET A. DULLEA	} <i>Porter</i>
MARION F. GERETY	
CLARISSA J. HOLMES	
CHARLES W. JOHNSON	

TRUSTEES' REPORT

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled:

The Trustees of the State Library make this their nineteenth annual report for the year ending November 30, 1928, under the provisions of Chapter 6, Section 37 of the General Laws.

The Trustees have suffered a sad loss during the year in the death of their Chairman, Hon. Nathan Matthews, and the Trustees have recorded their appreciation of the services rendered by him to this institution. Mr. Charles H. Taylor was elected Chairman of the Board to succeed Mr. Matthews.

The Board of Trustees of the State Library recommend the amendment of section 35, chapter 6 of the General Laws and the substitution of the proposed act given herewith, entitled: An Act establishing the salary of the State Librarian—

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SALARY OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Chapter six of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section thirty-five and inserting in place thereof the following: The governor, with the advice and consent of the council, shall appoint a librarian of the state library, who shall hold office during their pleasure and shall receive such salary as may be fixed by the trustees of said library with their approval.

CHARLES H. TAYLOR,
CHARLES T. COPELAND.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

To the Board of Trustees:

I have the honor to submit the following report of the work done in the Massachusetts State Library for the year ending November 30, 1928.

Every effort has been made to supply books as promptly as possible. New books are ordered in advance of publication, this being particularly true in regard to recent biography and law publications.

During the year ending November 30, 1928, the number of books and pamphlets purchased for the library was 2,466, the number received by gift 5,759, by exchange 2,608, making the total number of accessions 10,833, which is 436 less than for the year 1927. The total number of volumes bound during the year was 977.

During the past year exchanges have been carried on with the various states for documents, laws, and journals, and we have succeeded in filling in gaps in some of the state documents which had been missing from our shelves.

LIBRARY REFERENCE ROOMS.

Our attendance in the legislative reference rooms for the period December 1, 1927 to November 30, 1928, was 1,870, an increase of 153 over the attendance last year.

The number of telephone inquiries was 836, an increase of 77 over the year 1927.

The number of persons using the rooms during the legislative session January to July was 751 members, 403 state officials, and 256 outsiders.

CATALOGUE.

The usual yearly progress has been accomplished with 2,295 more volumes catalogued than last year. All current cataloguing is up to date, and progress made in re-cataloguing the collection as listed below.

To the use of the United States documents a new publication will contribute. It is the "Weekly list of selected U. S. government publications" issued since July 11, 1928, by the Superintendent of Documents. Important hearings before Congressional committees continue to be purchased. The foreign law collection has been enriched by many documents of the Irish Free State, Northern Ireland, and North Brabant, a province of the Netherlands, while the growth of the Philippine documents collection is appreciable and that of Chili increased by a generous contribution to the set of its Session Laws. Debates of the House and Senate of the Canadian Parliament are now complete since 1923. Some questions the library proved equipped to answer from its foreign law collection, are:—

"What is the law of descent in Syria?"

"What is the corporation law in South Australia?"

"Have you session laws of Jamacia for 1889 and 1890?"

During the year the library has delved more deeply into the League of Nations publications. Formerly we had subscribed to the Official journal with its Treaty series and Special supplements and to the Monthly summary, but had very little else. From a sample file of Library of Congress cards, which

it loaned for inspection, and from the catalogues of the League of Nations issued by the World Peace Foundation, we made a selection of over 300 volumes on the following general subjects: economics and finance, health, social questions, communication and transit, and disarmament. About two-thirds of these volumes have already been catalogued.

A number of New England historical societies, not indexed in Faxon's Annual magazine subject index, have their chief series of reports or publications analyzed.

Due to the fact that very few Library of Congress cards were received in the early summer, the filing of revised cards was completed. In the fall such a steady flow of printed cards was received that the filing is not yet completed, but a total of 28,996 cards has been filed.

ADDITIONS.

Number of volumes added to the library from Dec. 1, 1927 to Nov. 30, 1928.

BOOKS.

By purchase	1829	
By domestic exchange	1050	
By foreign exchange	234	
By gift	1413	
Massachusetts state publications	548	
Total		5,074

PAMPHLETS.

By purchase	637	
By domestic exchange	1217	
By foreign exchange	107	
By gift	3370	
Massachusetts state publications	428	
Total		5,759
Total for 1927-28		10,833
Previous total		470,183
Total volumes and pamphlets in library Nov. 30, 1928		481,016

SUMMARY.

Groups of books catalogued during the year for the new catalogue:

1. All current additions to the library, and new continuations for the fiscal year. This includes current law books; current documents of the United States, Great Britain and her dependencies; current foreign documents and the general book and pamphlet collection.
2. Law commentaries and abridgments; court rules; law dictionaries.
3. Individual biography, M-P, alphabetically.
4. Publications of universities and colleges, H-T, including the whole collection of Harvard publications.
5. Pamphlets collected, catalogued and bound, on historical subjects: Plymouth, Pilgrims, American Revolution, War of 1912, Civil War, Kansas, Oregon, Texas, etc.
6. State reports on fish and game, forestry, and conservation of natural resources.
7. Publications of League of Nations.

Total of 16,349 volumes and pamphlets catalogued; represented by 26,813 cards which are supplemented by 880 analytics, in all 27,698 cards typed and filed during 1927-28.

Tabulation

Volumes and pamphlets catalogued by new plan, Dec. 1, 1927	254,275
Volumes and pamphlets catalogued during the year	16,349
Total volumes and pamphlets catalogued Dec. 1, 1928	270,624
Less volumes and pamphlets reduced by binding	319
Less volumes and pamphlets lost	2
Less volumes and pamphlets discarded	211
Net volumes and pamphlets represented in the new catalogue, Dec. 1, 1928	270,092
Represented by 413,969 cards.	

EDWARD H. REDSTONE,
State Librarian.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS IN ACCOUNT WITH STATE
LIBRARY

DECEMBER 1, 1927 To NOVEMBER 30, 1928

Financial Statement

From appropriation of \$5,000 for librarian		\$5,000.00
From appropriation of \$35,000 for salaries of staff		34,318.31
From appropriation of \$15,000 for books and binding		12,641.46
From appropriation of \$3,000 for incidental expenses, including printing of annual report		*2,151.79
Total		\$54,111.56
Salary of librarian		\$5,000.00
Salary of assistant librarian	\$2,520.00	
Salary of head of catalogue department	2,220.00	
Salaries of 4 library reference assistants	7,405.16	
Salaries of 3 junior clerks and typists	3,020.00	
Salaries of 3 junior library assistants	2,535.00	
Salaries of 10 senior library assistants	14,204.35	
Salary of porter	1,419.98	
Payment of 2 laborers	953.82	
Payment of temporary assistant	40.00	
Purchase of books	10,393.20	34,318.31
Binding	2,248.26	
Annual report for 1926-27	31.75	12,641.46
Incidental expenses, including expressage postage, stationery, supplies, etc.	2,120.04	2,151.79
Total		\$54,111.56

*Of this sum expenditures to the amount of \$58.05 were for the year 1926-27 and were paid for by money brought forward from the 1926-27 appropriation.

TABLE OF ACCESSIONS BOOKS

	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
By purchase	1,726	1,866	1,236	1,064	1,383	1,682	1,481	1,228	1,519	1,755	1,630	1,532	1,674	1,829
domestic exchange	1,606	1,447	1,565	1,388	1,431	716	1,022	1,027	1,031	976	1,193	1,217	1,070	1,050
foreign exchange	421	444	265	237	181	95	230	318	181	239	190	200	199	234
donation	655	1,126	700	427	771	1,651	1,760	1,489	2,628	1,654	1,430	1,239	1,464	1,413
Massachusetts state publications	265	624	705	459	421	416	739	579	379	393	506	349	396	548
Totals	4,673	5,007	4,411	3,575	4,187	4,560	5,232	4,641	5,738	5,017	4,949	4,537	4,803	5,074

PAMPHLETS

	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
By purchase	232	245	342	234	176	735	1,056	389	372	306	431	496	379	637
domestic exchange	1,972	1,710	1,460	1,878	1,426	499	662	619	765	1,427	1,532	1,154	1,221	1,217
foreign exchange	195	141	148	434	195	68	110	120	135	119	173	86	141	107
donation	1,172	1,580	1,603	639	1,408	3,260	3,141	2,739	9,318	3,161	3,219	3,946	4,181	3,370
Massachusetts state publications	299	377	554	545	615	824	1,088	924	666	556	718	760	544	428
Totals	3,870	4,053	4,107	3,730	3,820	5,386	6,057	4,791	11,196	5,569	6,073	6,442	6,466	5,759

Total volumes and pamphlets in library, November 30, 1928, 481,016.

